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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Attorney for Applicant

PATENT
Docket No. SJ0920010058US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Tsann Lin et al.	)
Serial No.:	10/066,835	)
Filed:	February 4, 2002	) Group Art Unit: 1773
For:	***IN-SITU* OXIDIZED FILMS FOR USE AS GAP LAYERS FOR A SPIN-VALVE SENSOR AND METHODS OF MANUFACTURE**	)
Examiner:	Kevin M. Bernatz	

Ok to Enter, but note that new claims 13-15 are actually claims 27-29 -KMB 3/18/04

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AND AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on August 1, 2003, Notice of Appeal, and a subsequent telephone interview, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

detect changes in resistance of the spin-valve sensor caused by rotation of the magnetization of the sensing layers relative to the fixed magnetizations of the pinned layers in response to changing magnetic fields induced by the magnetically recorded data.

(13-26 withdrawn, but still pending)

27

~~13~~. (New) The spin-valve sensor of claim 1, wherein each *in-situ* oxidized metallic film is formed by sputter-depositing a pure metal in a vacuum and subsequently introducing oxygen to the pure metal film to completely oxidize the metal.

28

~~14~~. (New) The spin-valve sensor of claim 1, wherein each *in-situ* oxidized metallic film is sputter-deposited to a thickness of up to about ten Angstroms.

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~~15~~. (New) The spin-valve sensor of claim 1, wherein each *in-situ* oxidized metallic film is formed such that contaminants are substantially eliminated from the metallic film.